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FY-1976 KEY INTELLIGENCE QUESTIONS IN THE NIO/SP AREA

What are Soviet objectives, policies, deployment plans and perceptions relating to strategic weapons and the strategic balance? In particular, how do the Soviets rationalize their strategic weapons programs and what goals have they set for themselves in the area of strategic weaponry vis-a-vis the US? Catching up or some sort of superiority?

What progress are the Soviets making, and what are their objectives, in increasing the countersilo capability of their silo-based ICBM forces? In particular, what are the accuracies of the Soviet SS-X-16, 17, 18 and 19 ICBM systems?

What progress are the Soviets making in improving the survivability of their ICBM forces? Are the Soviets developing and deploying land-mobile ICBMs; if so, what progress is being made?

What doctrine, strategy, and plans do the Soviets have for the command and control and use of nuclear forces, including selective uses of nuclear weapons?

What are Soviet objectives in nuclear weapons technology, and what progress are the Soviets making in this area?

What is the intended size, role and armament of the Backfire force?

What progress have the Soviets made in development of improved tankers, a follow-on heavy bomber, or a stand-off missile carrier?

What programs and plans do the Soviets have for the development and deployment of follow-on SLBM systems including modifications to existing systems. What changes have been made in SSBN operational practices and patrol areas, and command and control capabilities?

What progress are the Soviets making toward acquisition of an effective capability for open ocean submarine detection and localization?

What progress are the Soviets making in ABM development, and what are their plans for further deployment?

What progress are the Soviets making in development of air defenses against bombers and missiles attacking at low altitudes?

What progress are the Soviets making toward strategic applications of lasers and beam weapons?

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What progress are the Soviets making in early research and development and advanced technologies which could lead to significant qualitative improvements in existing weapons systems, or to the development of weapon systems based on novel physical means?

What are Soviet and Warsaw Pact objectives and positions in arms limitations negotiations?

What are Soviet and Warsaw Pact intentions and actions with respect to adherence to arms limitations agreements with the United States?

What is the present status of China's nuclear capabilities and nuclear R&D technology? Emphasize locations and capabilities of delivery vehicles and the numbers and types of weapons in stockpile.

What progress are the Chinese making toward acquiring missile capabilities against the US and against the USSR west of the Urals?

What are the objectives, programs and capabilities of countries other than the US, USSR, UK, France and the PRC for developing or acquiring nuclear weapons and delivery systems? Include policies and actions of other countries (including nuclear powers) toward assisting the non-nuclear states in acquiring a nuclear capability.

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